

**MAR 28 2006**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Paul W. Sherer, et al.

**Docket No:** 1112.US.CIP

**Serial No.:** 09/488,942

**Group No.:** 2152

**Filed:** January 21, 2000

**Examiner:** Dung C. Dinh

**For:** PROGRAMMED I/O ETHERNET  
ADAPTER WITH EARLY INTERRUPTS  
FOR ACCELERATING DATA TRANSFER

March 28, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AFTER R.C.E.**

Dear Sir:

This responds to the final Office Action (mailed September 29, 2005) received in connection with the above-captioned application. In conjunction with this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants are submitting a Request for Continued Prosecution and a Request to Extend the Period of Time to respond. Reconsideration of the application in view of the remarks and amendment submitted herein is requested.

**Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.